Action to prevent cruelty to Animals

†3765. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Prayogshlaon mein bejuban janwaron par Krurta kee seema nahin", which appeared in Rashtriya Sahara dated 20th March, 2001; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take to prevent the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government has constituted a Commitee under sections 14 to 20 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 with the purpose of controlling and supervising experiments performed on animals. The Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals has formulated rules governing the procedures for experimentation, which have been notified through the Breeding of and Experiments on Animals (Control and Supervision) Rules, 1998 and experiments on Animals (Control and Supervision) (Amendment) Rules, 2001. As per rule all the scientific institutes/establishments performing experiments/breeding have to register themselves with the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals. The Committee lays down the guidelines to be followed by all establishments for the maintenance of animals and animal houses. On application by the institutions and on being satisfied about the standards of ethical use of animals, this Committee gives suggestion to the institutions. The Committee has also been keeping close watch on the condition of the animal houses and the process of experimentation and has taken necessary action against several institutions, where violations have been reported.

Ban on use of wild animals in circus

†3766. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to ban the use of wild animals in circus;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.